

Back to School safety reminders  
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Keller ISD students return to class Tuesday, which means our traffic unit will be diligently monitoring speeds and cell phone use in our school zones. Here are the things to keep in mind inside school zones, near campuses and out in the community to avoid a citation:

- **School Zones:** Drivers are required to reduce their speeds within marked school zones to the posted school zone speeds limits. Speed limits vary based on a street's normal speed, so be sure to check the signs!
- **Cell Phones:** Keep in mind that cell phone use, including texting, is illegal when traveling through an active school zone.
- **Marked Crosswalks and School Crossing Guards:** Traffic in both directions must stop when pedestrians are in a marked crosswalk or when a crossing guard is holding up a stop sign. These crossing guards are there to keep our children safe, so please treat them with respect.
- **School Buses:** Passing a school bus displaying its flashing red lights and/or stop sign can cost you more than \$500 in fines! Traffic in both directions across all lanes is required to stop for a school bus if there is no median on the road; if there is a median, all the traffic on the bus's side must stop.

And keep in mind: Keller and Westlake students will be seeing more of Keller's police officers this school year as the department continues the new School Campus Patrol Program that started this spring.

Developed in partnership with Keller ISD and the Town of Westlake in the wake of the Sandy Hook Elementary School tragedy in Connecticut last year, the program will have officers regularly patrolling campuses in an effort to heighten police presence, strengthen relationships between officers and campus communities, and further familiarize officers with campus layouts.

Patrols will occur randomly at campuses served by the Keller Police Department, with officers leaving their marked cars out front while they perform foot patrols both inside and outside the buildings. The uniformed officers will not be entering classrooms unless requested by campus staff. In addition to acting as a deterrent, this program will allow our officers to be more effective in the event of a true emergency as they will be more familiar with the layout of the schools.

For more information about the program, contact the Keller Police Department at [817-743-4500](tel:817-743-4500).

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